

One year later Chief Garza's leadership role dramatically expanded when he was named Deputy Chief of the United States Border Patrol in Washington, D.C. There he represented the Border Patrol across the world, including in the Middle East, where he shared his valuable insight and experience with foreign leaders and governments.

After serving in Washington, DC, Chief Garza returned back to the field to lead the Marfa Sector as Chief Patrol Agent. During his tenure as Chief Patrol Agent, Chief Garza has modernized his sector to respond to the growing threats to our national security by utilizing mission-oriented technology and transitioning the Sector Intelligence Unit to a pro-active organization. Day in and day out, Chief Garza and his well-trained staff put their lives on the line to tirelessly work to protect our country.

I am proud to commend my good friend—and a hero to our Nation—Chief Simon Garza, Jr., for his distinguished and honorable career. His straightforward and unwavering leadership will be greatly missed. Congratulations on a job well done, Chief.

INTRODUCTION OF THE STEVENS-INOUE INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE LEGACY ACT

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, today, my colleagues, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, DON YOUNG, JIM SAXTON and I are introducing the Stevens-Inouye International Fisheries Monitoring and Compliance Legacy Act. This legislation will amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act—the Nation's premier fishery conservation statute—and Title IV of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act to promote additional measures to reduce Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing activities. In addition, the bill will implement two international fisheries treaties—the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention and the Agreement between the Governments of the United States and Canada on Pacific Hake/Whiting.

This legislation continues to build on the United States' tradition of implementing fishery conservation and management measures domestically and internationally. The United States has been a leader at many international fora to move forward policies that require countries to enforce conservation measures on their flag vessels.

Some international fisheries commissions have been more successful than others in passing resolutions recommending the implementation of conservation measures for fish species in international waters and tying to these measures adequate enforcement provisions. Title I of the Stevens-Inouye International Fisheries Monitoring and Compliance Legacy Act requires the Secretary of Commerce to work toward getting all international fisheries commissions to adopt effective enforcement provisions for species of fish under their jurisdiction.

The effective enforcement of conservation measures for vessels fishing in international waters will help reduce and work toward elimi-

nating the illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities occurring in many high seas areas. This legislation would require the Secretary to work with international fishery commissions to adopt market-based incentives, use vessel monitoring systems, and create international vessel registries as ways to eliminate unregulated fishing activities.

Title II and III of this legislation would implement the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention and the Agreement between the Governments of the United States and Canada on Pacific Hake/Whiting, respectively. These two titles will allow for U.S. participation in these important international fishery commissions. As in Title I of this legislation, U.S. participation at these international commissions is critical to moving forward U.S. policies to further conserve Pacific Highly Migratory Species and Pacific Whiting and the adoption of effective enforcement measures.

The Senate Commerce Committee, led by Co-Chairmen STEVENS and INOUE, have been leaders on this issue and have passed similar legislation through the Senate and the short title of the bill recognizes their leadership in this area.

This is an important piece of legislation and I look forward to working with my House Colleagues and my Senate Colleagues to pass this bill to the President before the end of the year.

CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IRVING G. BERGMAN AMERICAN LEGION POST IN BANNING, CALIFORNIA

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, the American Legion is one of the most respected institutions in our Nation, honoring our veterans and providing service to local communities. This is especially true of the Irving G. Bergman Post 428 in Banning, California, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary in August.

Post 428 was chartered as the San Geronio Pass Post of the American Legion in August 1931, to serve the veterans living in the Riverside County cities of Banning, Beaumont, Cabazon, Cherry Valley and Calimesa. Over the years, the Post has also become a community resource in the rapidly growing area.

More than 200 veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the Persian Gulf are active members of the Post, which refurbished a building in downtown Banning for its headquarters. My colleagues will be pleased to know that a flag flown over our Capitol waves over the Post each day.

Members of the Post provide service to disabled veterans at the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center in nearby Loma Linda. The Post is a frequent host for ceremonies on Veterans Day, Memorial Day and other observances. Members have sponsored widely recognized salutes, including a Salute to Blue Star Families and a communitywide Welcome Home to Troops which drew hundreds of area residents to honor California National Guard members returning from fighting the War on

Terrorism. The Post also helped completely refurbish the local Armory.

Post 428 is especially active in the community, with members visiting schools to talk about patriotism and what it means to be a veteran, presenting small flags to students and large flags to be flown at the schools. Members have also participated in safety fairs and local parades.

I am particularly grateful to the past commander of Post 428, Rees Lloyd, who has been a strong advocate for protection of the Mojave Cross Veteran's Memorial in the Mojave National Preserve in the desert area of my congressional district. Although it is in a remote location and has a clear history as a veterans memorial, the cross has been challenged by the American Civil Liberties Union, which sued the National Park Service to remove it. Through the efforts of Mr. Lloyd, who is now commander of all Riverside County Posts, the American Legion has taken a strong stand in support of maintaining the cross. With their support, I am hopeful we will prevail in keeping this memorial to our veterans.

Mr. Speaker, the American Legion motto is "Still Serving God and Country," and I believe that is especially true of Post 428. Please join me in thanking them for their public service, and congratulating them on their 75th anniversary.

UNITED STATES AND INDIA NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROMOTION ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5682) to exempt from certain requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 a proposed nuclear agreement for cooperation with India:

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Chairman, as a long time supporter of India and one of the co-founders of the India Caucus I have watched with gratification over the past decade as India and the United States have emerged as strategic partners. I believe the world's oldest and largest democracies have a lot to learn from and share with one another.

I am concerned, however, that the Bush administration seems to have focused all of the energy in this bilateral relationship on the recent proposal to commence nuclear cooperation. I understand India's growing energy demands and shortages (a crisis which we in the United States also face) and I believe that our two countries should cooperate and share technologies to promote energy independence. That is why, despite serious reservations about the proposed U.S.-India nuclear cooperation agreement and the Bush administration's ability to properly implement it, I co-sponsored H.R. 5682. I believe it is important that we continue to engage India on this important issue, and I supported this legislation to move this process along.

But I have serious concerns with the agreement as it stands. India has not signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), and